

CLAIMS

1. A DNA of the following (a), (b) or (c):
- (a) a DNA having the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:1
- (b) a DNA having a nucleotide sequence derived from the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 by the deletion, addition, insertion and/or substitution of one or a plurality of nucleotides
- and coding for a protein having decaprenyl diphosphate synthase activity
- (c) a DNA which hybridizes with the DNA having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 under a stringent condition and codes for a protein having decaprenyl diphosphate synthase activity.
2. A protein of the following (d) or (e):
- (d) a protein having the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2
- (e) a protein having an amino acid sequence derived from the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 by the deletion, addition, insertion and/or substitution of one or a plurality of amino acids and having decaprenyl diphosphate synthase activity.
3. A DNA coding for the protein according to Claim 2.
4. An expression vector constructed by cloning the DNA according to Claim 1 or 3 in an expression vector.
5. The expression vector according to Claim 4 wherein the expression vector is pUCNT.
6. The expression vector according to Claim 5 wherein the expression vector is pNTS1.

Sub A2

7. A transformant as obtainable by transforming a host microorganism with the DNA according to Claim 1 or 3.

8. A transformant as obtainable by transforming a host microorganism using the expression vector according to Claim 4, 5 or 6.

9. The transformant according to Claim 7 or 8 wherein the host microorganism is Escherichia coli.

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10. The transformant according to Claim 9 wherein the Escherichia coli is Escherichia coli DH5

 α .

11. The transformant according to Claim 10 which is E. coli DH5 α (pNTS α 1) (FERM BP-6844).

12. A process for producing a coenzyme Q₁₀ which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 7, 8, 9, 10 or 11 in a culture broth and harvesting the coenzyme Q₁₀ produced and accumulated in the resulting culture.

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Sub A3

Sub A4